

Committee Meeting Minutes Old Town Community Council - Tuesday 8th July 2008

Edinburgh City Chambers

Chair – Peter Sharma

Present S Piacentia

B Borthwick

C Grant

S Richardson

B Cowan

Visitors P.E. Heaton – Armstrong

V Ashton

J Tait

J Haddow

Apologies

A Ansel

J Stewart

J Thomson

J Logan

M Forgie

Not present

All E.C. Councillors

M.S.P.

1) All present welcomed and apologies read, absence of secretary John Stewart due to an accident for which sympathy extended and Bill Cowan to arrange send card.

In his absence meeting minuted by B. Borthwick.

2) Minutes of previous meeting scrutinised and passed as correct.

3) Matters arising.

- a) publicity—deferred to next meeting due to lack of information.
- b) Traffic--- Old Town Plan no progress but intend to invite new Director of City Development to a meeting for information. Enquire of J.S. if invitation been sent.
- c) Christmas Lights C.G. in discussion with Charles Dundas who wants more help from traders. B.B. senses traders not happy for extra contribution to general fund but prefer own initiatives on top of City actions. Charles Dundas contacting all parties involved Parliament, Holyrood Palace, Whiteford House etc. and will hopefully report to O.T.C.C. in October '08
- d) No 60 Bus South side C.C. not in receipt of papers regarding joint meeting with O.T.C.C. P.S. to arrange and define joint strategy. C.G. issue to be raised with neighbourhood partnership through J.T. P.S. thought should be raised by Dumbiedykes Residents Group via Neighbourhood Partnership. C.G. reiterated need for No. 60 by older and frailer members of society as medical facilities up steep hill also only access to significant day to day shopping.
- e) Declaration of interests all taken care of.
- f) Membership with regards Ken Smillie and continuing membership of O.T.T.C. P.S. wrote to K.S. re. Low attendance advising him that if no communication he would be assumed to have stood down. No reply to date. C.G. expressed concern that his treatment differed from that extended to Graeme Fairbrother. P.S. reminded members his action was instigated by discussion at the previous meeting and the method requested by John Stewart i.e. letter and reply requested C.G. perhaps we should wait until September for reply. Adopted.
Blackfriars P.S. to send application documents to Residents Association for membership O.T.T.C.C.
St. Giles application documents been sent.

4) Correspondence

- a) Edinburgh City Centre Partnership top twenty issues e-mailed no observations made.
- b) Edinburgh World Heritage P.S. to contact A.A. proposing letter of support regarding Nelson Monument and Time Ball restoration.
- c) Canongate Youth Project Committee C.G. volunteered to act as representative.
- d) Queensferry and District C.C. annual report received and noted.
- e) Proposed traffic waiting restrictions received and noted P.S. received letter from Edinburgh Association of C.C.s it is anticipated J.S. will attend.

5) Discussion items recommend we object licence application by the Creperie Van in Grassmarket.

S.P. we have indicated our support for Chris Wigglesworth being co-opted on to licencing forum .
B.C. requests a letter to Sarah Boyack indicating support for Chris Wigglesworth P.S. to send

c) Planning Canongate no further information or discussion.

Grassmarket arboriculturist report awaited regarding life expectancy of some poplars with implication about their possible replacment during present work. Work will restart in Sept. after festival towards completion before Dec. Parking spaces will be around and in Grassmarket. Pedestrianisation from 12noon until 8p.m. allowing for residents activities and deliveries around these times. Pilot scheme for 8 groups of 8 tables franchised out in 2 week periods to appropriate trading outlets. A committee has been established to supervise.

General applications nothing pertinent.

6) Open forum proposed change of use of Panmure House and St. Anns Centre .

Disputed ownership of right of use between City Departments delaying development of new use which will be a centre for education of excluded schoolgirls. C.G. perhaps residents anxiety about girl's behaviour could be taken up with David Becket in case management is not as effective as when at Panmure House since no great problems tjhere. P. S to contact P.C. Lyall Downie .

Blackfriars Residents may need structural survey undertaken as the St. Patrick church hall basement excavations are extensive and South Grey's Lane could be de-stabilised C.G. has sent letter of protest re. This work to World Heritage Scotland suggesting an on-site meeting copy to Cockburn Association. P. Heaton-Armstrong to liase with P.S. to establish help policy.

C.G. can City Common Good Account be fully discussed at next meeting and have register of common good lands for Old Town area.

S.R. and B.C. intimated Parliament has left planning consent decision with City Council as not called in. Questioned whether in current financial climate will Mountgrange walk away from Caltongate Development.

Canongate Street Party cancelled at last minute on health and safety grounds as clashed with other activities in area.

Saltire Steps letter to be sent from B.B. to P.S. to forward to councillors and Neighbourhood Partnership.